

REMARKS

Applicants have addressed the antecedent objections to Claims 16, 18, 24 and 29. Reconsideration is requested in view of the enclosed submission and the discussion below.

The indication of the allowability of Claims 15, 23, 29 and 36-38 is noted with appreciation. As pointed out in a telephone discussion between the Examiner and the undersigned on September 1, 2006, no action has been taken on Claims 30-35 either by way of allowance or rejection. The undersigned regrets not noting this earlier so as to call this omission to the Examiner's attention. If a further action is necessary, applicants request that it be non-final to give them an opportunity to respond on Claims 30-35.

Inasmuch as applicants traverse the rejections of Claims 13, 14, 16-22, and 24-28 as being anticipated by Hyltin et al., further action is not deemed necessary. In particular, as Hyltin et al. patent does not teach the claimed conductor. Numeral 42 on that patent depicts a power converter circuit. The reference to power conductor 42 at col. 10, line 14 is incorrect and makes no sense.

Moreover, although numerals 176 and 178 do refer to conductors, they are temperature data return conductors in, for example, the thermostat slide switch shown in Figs. 10 and 11 and described at col. 12, lines 25-45 in the Hyltin et al.

patent. As that description makes clear, these conductors are provided for the purpose of changing an internal signal manually and not for inputting an external signal.

Nor does the Hyltin et al. patent teach or suggest the claimed concave formed outside the housing and a conductor inside of that concave and electrically connecting the circuit. Fig. 1 of the patent merely shows movable slide switches 14A–14F projecting from the thermostat housing for manual actuation. They are not the claimed conductors of the present invention. Accordingly, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

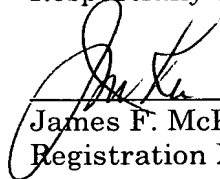
If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

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If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #056207.43640C5).

Respectfully submitted,

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